

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

NOTICE

This notice is given by Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment, acting pursuant to the Proclamation of Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. (the “Governor”) dated March 5, 2020 proclaiming a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency related to COVID-19, as it may be amended or renewed from time to time, and the Order of the Governor dated March 12, 2020 entitled “Extending Certain Licenses, Permits, Registrations, and Other Governmental Authorizations, and Authorizing Suspension of Legal Time Requirements,” as it may be amended from time to time, after finding that the action(s) described herein will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety.

The Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions §4-203 (Timeliness of decision on application) requires the The Maryland Department of the Environment (custodian of records) to produce the public record of an approved application within a reasonable period of time that is needed to retrieve the public record, but not more than 30 days after receipt of the application. The statute further requires that the custodian of records indicate in writing or electronic mail within 10 working days of receipt of the request if it believes that it will take more than 10 working days to produce the public record. The statute further requires when the application will be custodian of records in accordance with §4-203(c)(1) that a written statement explaining the denial be provided within 10 working days after receipt of the application. I hereby suspend and modify the legal effect of that statute’s 10 and 30 day requirements each to "30 days after the state of emergency ends." Any effect of Ann. Code of Maryland General Provisions §4-203 (Timeliness of decision on application) inconsistent with the foregoing is hereby suspended.

This Notice is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until 30 days after the state of emergency has been terminated and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Grumbles". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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Ben Grumbles
Secretary